

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge
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News Release



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SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT DETROIT RIVER INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Grosse Ile, Michigan — An exciting opportunity will be offered this summer at the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. A select number of young men and women between 15 and 18 years of age will be given the chance to experience nature in a unique setting and work with a dedicated team of wildlife professionals on America's first international wildlife refuge.

Applications are now available for positions in the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program, a meaningful summer employment opportunity for young men and women to work, learn, and earn in a team setting. Selected participants will take part in various assignments throughout the program and will complete significant conservation projects while receiving a paycheck.

Youth Conservation Corps crews undertake difficult work projects that require effort and cooperation. Tasks assigned will incorporate general refuge operations, wildlife research, trail maintenance and visitor access concerns, environmental education and recreation programs, and basic grounds upkeep and repair. A keen interest in natural resources and a general appreciation for field work is highly recommended. Applicants should be prepared to carry out physically challenging tasks and labor-intensive duties that may include clearing vegetation, constructing and improving trails, and invasive plant removal while exposed to sun, wind, rain, poisonous plants, and sometimes "buggy" conditions.

The Youth Conservation Corps program is challenging, educational, and fun, and gives individuals the chance to play an active role in protecting the nation's precious resources. Crew members will learn about career opportunities in the conservation field, gain valuable work skills, and develop lifelong friendships with other young adults from all walks of life. Participants will also enjoy educational field trips, hands-on experiences, and activities both on-site and within the greater Detroit community.

Enrollees in the Youth Conservation Corps program are chosen using a random-method selection process. No demographic information such as race or family income will be utilized for selection. Once designated, crew members will be required to work 40 hours a week and must be available to work for the entire 8-week program. Participants are required to provide their own transportation to the work site. Crew work begins June 17 and runs through August 9, 2013. Pay is minimum wage. Interested youth should e-mail Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge staff at Jamie_Lanier@fws.gov or call 734.692.7649 for additional information about the YCC program. Applications and Medical Forms are available online at www.fws.gov/refuge/Detroit_River. For consideration, all application materials must be received (or postmarked) by **April 24, 2013**.

The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge includes more than 5,700 acres along 48 miles of the lower Detroit River and western Lake Erie. The Refuge focuses on conserving, protecting, and restoring habitat for 29 species of waterfowl, 23 species of raptors, 31 species of shorebirds, over 100 species of fish, and over 300 species of birds. It is the first international refuge in North America and one of a few urban refuges in the nation. Unique habitats being managed within the Refuge include islands, coastal wetlands, marshes, shoals and waterfront lands.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, working with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service is both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation. Visit www.fws.gov to learn more.

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